File # 20813

OFFICE OF CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER

Date Sept. 8, 1965 Time 9:00 P.M.

I performed an autopsy on the body of DOROTHY DANDRIDGE

at CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER'S MORTUARY, Hall of Justice, Los Angeles,

and from the anatomic findings and pertinent history I ascribe the death to:

ACUTE DRUG INTOXICATION.

DUE TO: INGESTION OF TOFRANIL.

(final Nov. 19, 1965)

ANATOMIC SUMMARY

SKELETAL SYSTEM:

1. Fractured right fifth metatarsal with ecchymosis of foot and ankle.

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM:

1. Focal pulmonary congestion.

CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM:

1. Focal intravascular congestion of thalamus, basal ganglia, and pons.

GENITOURINARY SYSTEM:

1. Bilateral renal atrophy.
2. Bilateral ovarian cysts.

INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM:

1. Old, healed, transverse scar of lower abdomen.
2. Old, healed scar of right subclavicular area.
3. Recent needle puncture of right buttock.

AUTOPSY FINDINGS

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION:

The unembalmed body is that of a Negro female reported as approximately 40 years of age, measuring 5'5" in length,

weighing 138 pounds, with black hair, brown eyes, and medium-dark olive complexion.

There is an old, healed, transverse scar of the lower abdomen.. There is a small, old, healed scar at the lateral margin of the right clavicle, as shown on Diagram #1 of the accompanying series of two diagrams. There is a recent needle puncture mark in the skin of the right buttock region (covered with an adhesive bandage) reportedly residual of a vitamin injection. Numerous loops of adhesive tape encircle the right foot and ankle in a "figure-8" bandage, and removal of the tape reveals a zone of blue-green to yellow-green ecchymosis of the right foot and ankle as shown on the diagram.

PRIMARY INCISION:

On opening the body the thoracic and abdominal viscera are in the usual position and relationships. The pleural and peritoneal surfaces are smooth and glistening, and free of adhesions. No excessive or unusual fluid is present in the body cavities.

ORGAN DESCRIPTION

HEART:

The heart is normal in size and contour, weighing 310 grams. The epicardial and internal pericardial surfaces are smooth and glistening and free of adhesions.

The aorta is virtually free of atherosclerosis throughout its length, with only a few small soft atheromatous plaques.

Dissection of the heart in the usual hemodynamic sequence reveals normal size and configuration of the cardiac chambers, great vessels and valves with no gross anatomic lesions or stigmata of disease, other than atherosclerosis.

The tricuspid, pulmonary, mitral and aortic valves measure 11.5, 7.0, 10.0 and 6.0 cm. in circuference respectively. The right and left ventricular walls measure 0.1 and 1.0 cm. in thickness respectively.

The coronary ostia are normal in size and position, and dissection of the coronary circulation reveals normal distribution and patency throughout all branches with only a small single atheromatous plaque just beyond the left coronary ostium

producing only minimal reduction of luminal diameter. No intraluminal thrombi or zones of hemorrhage into coronary artery wall are demonstrated. The myocardium, on section, appears normal without areas of fibrosis or infarction.

LUNGS:

The right and left lungs weigh 340 and 310 grams respectively. There is nodular distribution of increased firmness with small zones of intravascular congestion, but no areas of frankly suppurative pneumonitis or hemorrhage are apparent.

The pulmonary arteries and veins contain no grossly recognizable thrombi or emboli. The tracheobronchial tree is normal throughout. The larynx, hyoid bone and deep soft tissues of the neck show no indications of trauma.

LIVER:

This organ is slightly larger than usual, weighing 1720 grams, has smooth brown capsular surfaces and, on section, reveals intact lobular architecture. No localized lesions are evident. The gall bladder and biliary tree are grossly normal.

SPLEEN:

This organ weighs 50 grams, has smooth dark purple capsular surfaces and, on section, reveals intact splenic pulp of similar dark color.

PANCREAS:

The pancreas is normal externally and on section.

ADRENALS:

These glands are grossly intact.

KIDNEYS:

The kidneys are roughly equal in size and together weigh 240 grams. The capsular surfaces of the kidneys are primarily smooth and regular without major areas of cortical scarring or retraction. Section reveals moderate diffuse hypoplasia or atrophy with otherwise normal architecture of the cortex and medullary structures. The pelves, calyces, and ureters are grossly intact, as is the urinary bladder.

FILE # 20813
DOROTHY DANDRIDGE
Sept. 8, 1965

FEMALE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM:

The uterus is small and the cervix appears nulliparous. The right ovary contains a 1 1/2" in diameter dermoid cyst with hair and oily sebacious material. The left ovary contains a fluid-filled cyst. No anatomic lesions or marks of trauma are visible in the vagina or on the external genitalia.

GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT:

No gross abnormalities or anatomic lesions are demonstrated in any portion of the gastrointestinal tract. The stomach contains an estimated 150 cc. of non-descript liquid. No erosions, ulcerations, or hemorrhages are visible in the esophagus, stomach or duodenum. The appendix is grossly normal. The remainder of the small and large intestine is intact.

SKELETAL SYSTEM:

Except for the fractured fifth right metatarsal noted previously, no abnormalities or osseous lesions are demonstrated.

CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM:

The head and scalp are normal externally. Reflection of the scalp reveals no subcutaneous, subaponeurotic, or temporalis muscle hemorrhage. The calvarium is normal externally and on removal permits escape of an average quantity of clear cerebrospinal fluid.

The brain is normal externally, weighing 1230 grams. The meninges are thin and translucent, showing no exudates or hemorrhages. The vessels about the base of the brain are normal in distribution and patency, without atheromatous plaques or intraluminal thrombi.

Sections through the cerebral hemispheres in the coronal plane reveal normal architecture throughout. The cerebellum, pons, medulla, and brain stem are grossly intact morphologically; however, many small caliber vessels (in the central white matter of the hemispheres and more conspiciously in the basal ganglia and pons) contain minute gelatinous thrombi, dilating the vascular lumen. No surrounding "ring hemorrhages" are evident.

Removal of the dura reveals no skull fracture, either in the calvarium or in the base of the cranial cavity. The foramen magnum and cervical spinal canal are grossly normal.

FILE # 20813
DOROTHY DANDRIDGE
Sept. 8, 1965

SPECIMENS:

Blood, liver, kidney, stomach, and contents for toxicology.

SECTIONS:

Selected sections for microscopic examination. Brain and lung for fat stain (frozen section). Routine tissue for hold.

HAROLD KADE, M.D.
DEPUTY MEDICAL EXAMINER

HK:lm:D

Sept. 20, 1965

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

OFFICE OF CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER

#20813
DOROTHY DANDRIDGE
Autopsy: 9/8/65

MICROSCOPIC DESCRIPTION

FROZEN SECTIONS:

Lung and Brain reveal intravascular globules of fat staining material in two slides of lung tissue and two slides of brain tissue. There are several such foci on each slide.

HEART:

Aside from a few minute foci of mild degenerative change with associated inflammatory response, the myocardium is essentially intact.

LUNGS:

There is intravascular engorgement and dilatation by erythrocytes and amorphous proteinaceous material. The alveolar spaces show emphysematous dilatation in some areas; others contain a serous exudate.

LIVER:

There is marked congestive swelling of polygonal cells with virtual obliteration of sinusoids. There is focal portal chronic triaditis, but fatty droplets are minimal in number and sparsely distributed.

KIDNEYS:

There are chronic inflammatory and fibrotic changes involving both the glomerular and trabecular structures.

CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM:

Sections reveal engorgement and dilatation of blood vessels with erythrocytes and pink-staining amorphous material. No

distinct zones of infarction or hemorrhage are evident.

Harold Kade M.D.

HAROLD KADE, M. D.
DEPUTY MEDICAL EXAMINER

HK:pw:G

June 27, 1966

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

#20813

OFFICE OF CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER

AUTOPSY CHECK SHEET

RIDGE, Dorothy File # SEP 8 - 1965 Date Time

EXAM

PERITONEUM
Fluid
Adhes
LIVER Wt 1720
Caps
Lobul
Fibros
G B
Calc
Bile ducts
SPLEEN Wt 50
Color
Consist
Caps
Malpig
PANCREAS
ADRENALS
KIDNEYS Wt 240 2
Caps
Cortex Smooth
Vessels
Pelvis Atrophic
Ureter
BLADDER
GENITALIA
Prost
Testes
Uterus — multiparous
Tubes
Ovar — cyst
OESOPHAGUS
STOMACH
DUOD & SM INT
APPENDIX — see
LARGE INT
ABDOM NODES
SKELETON
Spine
Marrow

BRAIN Wt 1230
Dura
Fluid
Ventric
Vessels
Ears
Nasal Sin
PITUITARY

TOXICOLOGY

SECTIONS

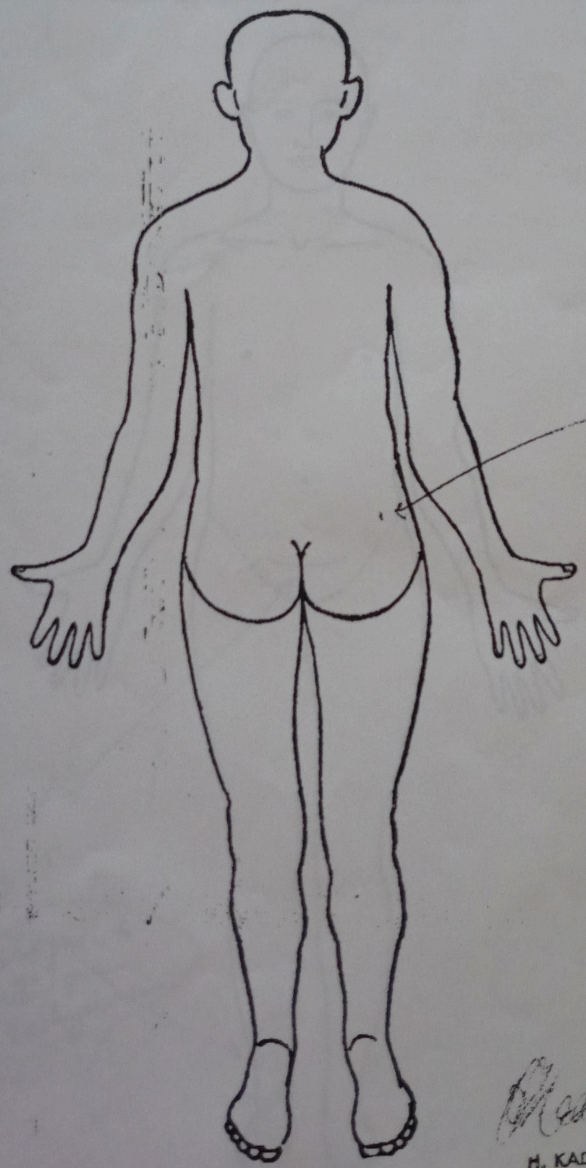
GROSS IMPRESSION
? chr glomer Nephr

H. KADE, M. D.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES #20813

OFFICE OF CORONER
BODY-FULL LENGTH POSTERIOR

[illegible] Date SEP 8 - 1955 File #



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M. KADE, M. D.

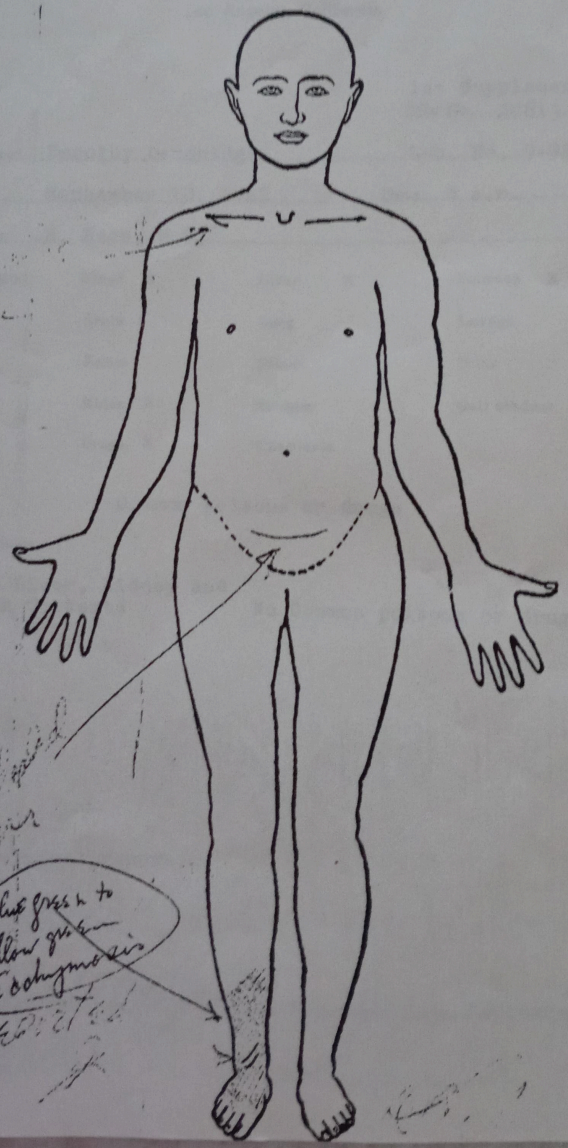
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

#20813

OFFICE OF CORONER

SEP 8 - 1965

Date_____ File #_____



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76R200A - Tox 4 - Cdh 5-65

REPORT OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

LOS ANGELES COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER
Toxicology Laboratory
Hall of Justice
Los Angeles, California

1st Supplemental Report
File No. 20813

Name of Deceased Dorothy Dandridge Lab. No. 9-96

Date Submitted September 10, 1965 Time 8 a.m.

Autopsy Surgeon H. Kade, M.D.

Material Submitted:

Blood X	Liver X	Stomach X
Brain	Lung	Lavage
Femur	Spleen	Urine
Kidney X	Sternum	Gall bladder
Drugs X	Chemicals	

Test Desired: Common poisons or drugs

Laboratory Findings:

Blood, Liver, Kidney and Stomach Content: No Common poisons or drugs found.

(See original report)

Examined By Edward R Thompson Head Toxicologist Date September 28, 1965

TOX 220A - Tox 4 - Oct 5-66

REPORT OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

LOS ANGELES COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER
Toxicology Laboratory
Hall of Justice
Los Angeles, California

File No. 20813 I

Name of Deceased Dorothy Dandridge Lab. No. 9-96

Date Submitted September 10, 1965 Time 8 a.m.

Autopsy Surgeon H. Kade, M.D.

Material Submitted:

Blood	X	Liver	X	Stomach	X
Brain		Lung		Lavage	
Femur		Spleen		Urine	
Kidney	X	Sternum		Gall bladder	
Drugs		Chemicals			

Test Desired: Ethanol, Barbiturates

Laboratory Findings:

Blood: Ethanol Absent

Blood: 0.3 mg. per cent Phenobarbital

Examined Edward R. Ferguson Head Toxicologist. Date September 10, 1965

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
OFFICE OF CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER

MEDICAL REPORT

Name DOROTHY DANDRIDGE Case No. 20813

Date 9-8-65 Time 900 pm ☐ INVESTIGATION ☒ AUTOPSY IN ☒ PENDING OUT ☐ ☒ FINAL ON 9-16-65 Dr. KADE

CAUSE OF DEATH:

ACUTE DRUG INTOXICATION.

Due to: INGESTION OF TOFRANIL.

HK:OS
Date final: Nov. 19, 1965

Due to:

OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO DEATH

LABORATORY
☒ Micro.
☐ Neuro.
☐ Bact. 343
☐ Photo By
☐ Date
☒ Toxicology
☒ Alcohol
☐ Barbs.
☐ C.O.
☐ Too Long for Alcohol
☐ Other — Explain Below

SPECIMENS SUBMITTED

MODE OF DEATH ☐ NATURAL ☒ ACCIDENT ☒ SUICIDE ☐ HOMICIDE ☐ ABORTION ☒ UNDETERMINED

Evidence of injury at work ☒ Yes ☐ Yes ☒ No Date 9-6-65 Time A.M. P.M. Describe: Ecchymosis of right ankle

DATE OF OPERATION

OPERATION (Check One.) ☒ No operation performed ☐ Operation performed—evidence does not aid in determining above stated cause of death ☐ Operation performed—evidence does not aid in determining above stated cause of death

MORTUARY ME-CORONER - LYSTRUP & MAYFIELD 9-8-65

Embalmed by: [illegible] License No. 3687 ☒ Yes Blood Sample Taken ☐ No Crypt No. 25

Medical Evidence ☐ Yes No ☒ Describe: Clothing ☐ Yes ☒ No

Embalmer's Observations: Body Temp. Taken By

Room Temp. Time

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION Age 40 Sex FE Race NEG Complexion MED Wt. 138 lbs. Ht. 65 in.

Hair BLK Teeth UPPER LOWER Eyes BRN Pupils N Scars, ~~amputations and~~ LOWER ABD. & NECK

Appliances on body TAPE R. ANKLE Tattoo or deformity

Hospitalized ☐ Yes ☒ No. Hospital Report ☐ Yes ☒ No Hospital No. Unit

In HOME Jail Hospital Duration

For SEE CASE REMARKS

Other History

Supplied By LT. HAMILTON Address SHERIFF HQS. Phone

Physician RUBENSTEIN Address: 412 N. CANON Phone

Diagnosis or Comment:

Information taken by MAYFIELD (D)

MEDICAL EXAMINER'S COMMENTS:

Kade MD

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
OFFICE OF CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER

CASE REPORT

Case No. 20 813

Tape #_____ Start_____ End_____

Hospital No._____ Crypt # 25 Taken by_____

Post Mortem at Colonel E Request of_____

NAME Dorothy DANDRIDGE AGE 37 Yrs Sex F Race N Date and Hour of Death 9-8-65 2 PM

Place of Death 8495 Fountain Pronounced Dead by_____

Reported by Hollywood Hamilton Address_____ Phone_____

Date_____ Time_____ A.M. P.M. Phone at Scene_____

Police Investigation ☐ Yes ☐ No Police Agency SHERIFF

Officer S holen d Date 9-8-65 Time_____ A.M. P.M. Supplemental Request_____

REPORTED AS:
- ☒ Natural ?
- ☒ Accident ?
- ☐ Suicide
- ☐ Homicide
- ☐ Undetermined
- ☐ At work

Residence at Deceased SAME Occupation ATHLETE Religion ?

Employer ? Soc. Sec. Number ? Military No. ? Vet ? WW II

Next of Kin Ruby DANDRIDGE Address 3737 Homeland Ave Phone At_____

Relationship Mother Notified by PRESENT at_____ A.M. P.M.

Weight 138 lbs. Height 165 in. Hair Black Bald L Curly Eyes Brown Mustache_____

Tattoo or Deformity SCAR Lower Arm (R) NECK Body Condition_____ Prints ☒ Yes ☐ No Property ☐ Yes ☒ No

Brought in by MAYFIELD & LYSTRUP Date 9-8-65 5:00 P.M. Door Sealed ☐ Yes ☒ No

INQUEST ☐ Yes ☐ No Held on_____ Inquest Deputy_____

CERTIFICATE ISSUED: Pending_____ By_____ FINAL 11-19-65 By J Davis

REMARKS: deceased hurt her right ankle while in Mexico City on 9-6-65 & 9-7-65 flew home on 9-7-65, & visited her podiatrist, Dr Michalek Subsequently ND 412 & Camden the wife gave a shot of B-12 in Rt buttocks, sent to Westside Hosp for X-Ray as thick. confirmed a fracture, went home & rested & returns to hosp for cast today. talked to her business mgr at 10 Am & found in good spirits they looking forward to a trip to New York 9-6-65 Talked to her mother at 1 PM 9-8-65 & in good spirits. after talking to ~~home~~ friends decide by phone from room The Ambassador Eagle (Eswin Mills 9006 Buston Bay) Came to the home and had to force entry into apt. found deceased face down on floor by bathroom (000 NS photos) Apparently she had been there. Was a wet wash cloth under body. The Ambassador mgr also photo deceased told him as 10 Am that she had taken Dramamine & was not feeling too well, & planned to sleep most of day

Mayfield Deputy

Pending 9-9-65 RVR

Assigned to Dr._____

FINAL CERTIFICATE BY_____ NOV. 19 1965

INVENTORY OF PERSONAL EFFECTS

Case No. 20813 Sept. 8, 1965

Dorothy Dandridge, Deceased

Cash $ None

1 gm Chain & Pearl Top Stone 1 Earring 5 gm
1 gm Ring & Wire cross Attached & Amerlac Stone

Sheriff #75925

Above is a List of all the Properties found by me upon the body of the above-named deceased after the body and clothing were thoroughly checked by me in the presence of witnesses whose signatures appear below.

Firm Name [illegible]

By [illegible]

WITNESS Name R. Skolund Address Sheriff's Homicide

Name _____ Address _____

Sept 8, 1965

Received From J. L. Mayfield, Jr.

the above described property of _____

Dorothy Dandridge, Deceased.

Name _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Relationship _____

76C622 -10/64

14R198H7—5/52

CORONER'S PROPERTY RECEIPT BOOK
(OUTGOING)

File # 20813 16 Day of JUNE 1966

RECEIVED FROM CORONER, County of Los Angeles, State of California.

The following described property found on the body of DOROTHY DANDRIDGE and said to belong to h:

1-14 K CHAIN & PEARL TYPE STONES
1 WM RING WM CROSS & STONES
1-PASS PORT BOOK # 1327561
1-HOTEL KEY
MISC CARDS & PAPERS BOOKS

Received $ on Mail County Warrant TO:

Name Ruby Dandridge By

Address 3737 Homeland Drive

City Los Angeles State Calif

tion Mother Delivered by Bustamante

CORONER'S INVENTORY OF PERSONAL EFFECTS

Case No. 20813 — SEPT 10, 1965

DANDRIDGE, DOROTHY, Deceased

Cash $

1-PASSPORT BOOK # 1327561

1-HOTEL KEY

MISC BOOKS & PAPERS

Ø

Y-175925

Above is a List of all the Properties found by me upon the body of the above-named deceased after the body and clothing were thoroughly checked by me in the presence of witnesses whose signatures appear below.

Firm Name

By

WITNESS

Name A. L. Sholund Address Sheriffs Homicide

Name Address

SEPT 10, 1965

Received From SHOLUND SHERIFFS HOM the above described property

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
THOMAS T. NOGUCHI, M.D.
Medical Examiner-Coroner

Deceased.

Name

Address City

State By Deputy Relationship

760522 -10/64

ORDER FOR RELEASE

To The CORONER, County of Los Angeles:

Los Angeles — Calif.

9-8-, 1965

NEXT OF KIN

I certify that, pursuant to Section 7100, Health & Safety Code, State of California, it is my legal right to select any funeral director I desire to take charge of the body of

John W Sandridge, deceased.

Therefore, please release the body of the above mentioned deceased to

Eugene Funeral Home

upon completion of your investigation of the death of said deceased.

Name Mrs Ruby Sandridge Relationship Mother

Address 3737 Homeland City LA State Calif

Telephone No. Re 4-2769

The parties for Interment & Disposition of remains Pending

NOT NEXT OF KIN

If the person signing is not the nearest of kin, state below the nearest kin and reason for not handling.

Name ..... Relationship .....

Address ..... City ..... State .....

Reason for not handling .....

Telephone No. .....

NON RELATIVE

I, ... bearing no relationship to the above named deceased, having executed the above authorization, do hereby assume full responsibilities for the costs of all funeral services in connection therewith of the above named funeral director.

Witness ..... Signed .....

Address ..... Address .....

..... City .....

Telephone No.

CORONER'S INVENTORY OF PERSONAL EFFECTS

Case No. 26813 SEPT 10, 1965

DANDRIDGE, DOROTHY, Deceased

Cash $

1-PASSPORT BOOK # 1327561
1-HOTEL KEY
MISC BOOKS & PAPERS

Ø

Y-T15925

Above is a List of all the Properties found by me upon the body of the above-named deceased after the body and clothing were thoroughly checked by me in the presence of witnesses whose signatures appear below.

Firm Name

By

WITNESS

Name A. L. Sholund Address Sheriffs Homicide

Name Address

SEPT 10, 1965

Received From SHOLUND SHERIFFS HOM the above described property

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
THOMAS T. NOGUCHI, M.D.
Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner

By Deputy

Deceased.

Name

Address City

State Relationship

78(322)-10/64

ORDER FOR RELEASE

To: The CORONER, County of Los Angeles:

Los Angeles, Calif.

9-15-, 1965

NEXT OF KIN

I certify that, pursuant to Section 7100, Health & Safety Code, State of California, it is my legal right to select any funeral director I desire to take charge of the body of

Dorothy Mae Landrum, deceased.

Therefore, please release the body of the above mentioned deceased to

Angeline Funeral Home

upon completion of your investigation of the death of said deceased.

Name Mrs Ruby Landrum Relationship Mother

Address 3737 Homeland City La State Calif

Telephone No. AX 4-2769

The person to be released is my mother

NOT NEXT OF KIN

If the person signing is not the nearest of kin, state below the nearest kin and reason for not handling.

Name ..... Relationship .....

Address ..... City ..... State .....

Reason for not handling .....

Telephone No. .....

NON RELATIVE

I, ... bearing no relationship to the above named deceased, having executed the above authorization, do hereby assume full responsibilities for the costs of all funeral services in connection therewith of the above named funeral director.

Witness ..... Signed .....

Address ..... Address .....

City